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Serial No. 10/551,468
Docket No. 2582LN.eh

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2 and 21 without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for laying a material sheet on a plurality number of cylindrical bodies, comprising:

a unit for applying a material web to the cylindrical bodies; and

a conveyor disposed to advance the cylindrical bodies in a longitudinal direction thereof, to, past and away from said unit, the conveyor comprising:

a first section comprising a plurality of wheels for rotating and advancing said cylindrical bodies, said first section being disposed to displace the cylindrical bodies in their longitudinal direction and up to connecting a cylindrical body of said plurality of cylindrical bodies with an end of a preceding cylindrical body of said plurality of cylindrical bodies; and

a second section comprising a plurality of wheels for rotating and advancing said cylindrical bodies, said second section being which is connected to said first section second and operating independent of said first section, and being disposed to positively rotate the cylindrical bodies about their longitudinal axis and displace the cylindrical bodies in the direction of their longitudinal axis during said applying of the material web, with a desired spacing between edges of the applied material web,

wherein said first section displaces the bodies ahead of the unit for applying the material web to connect the cylindrical body to the end of the preceding cylindrical body and permits slipping of the bodies after the connection of the cylindrical body to the end of the preceding cylindrical body.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first and second sections comprise first and second sides which comprise said a plurality of wheels disposed on a side of the bodies, the wheels being obliquely inclinable in relation to the longitudinal axis of the bodies for rotation and driving thereof towards, past and away from the unit for applying the material web.

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4. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said conveyer further comprises a driving belt and a drive pulley, the wheels being rotated by means of said driving belt extending about their periphery, on which the cylindrical bodies rest and which extends to and around the drive pulley.

5. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the wheels are arranged pairwise and are obliquely inclined for regulating the advancement speed of the bodies.

6. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the wheel pairs in the first section of the conveyor are obliquely inclinable independently of the wheel pairs in the second section of the conveyor.

7. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein the drive pulleys for the wheels on the first side of the first and second sections are disposed on a first common shaft and the drive pulleys for the wheels on the second side of the first and second sections are disposed on a second common shaft which is interconnected with said first common shaft, and

wherein a drive unit provides synchronous driving of the first and second common shafts and thereby the pulleys and the obliquely inclinable wheels.

8. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the first and second common shafts in the first section are discrete and separate from the first and second common shafts in the second section in order to permit differentiated driving of the wheel pairs in the first and second sections.

9. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising: a knife which is arranged to cut the applied material web at an end of the bodies after passage of the unit for applying the material web during conveying-off of the bodies therefrom.

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10. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 3, further comprising:
a plurality of trailing wheels which are provided above the bodies at the unit for applying the material web for urging the bodies against said plurality of wheels.
11. (Previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
a trailing wheel which is provided for abutment against the cylindrical body flush with a point where the material web is applied to the cylindrical body.
- 12-18. (Canceled)
19. (Currently amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 3 +, wherein said plurality of wheels in said first section are inclinable independent of said plurality of wheels in said second section.
20. (Currently amended) A conveyor for advancing plural cylindrical bodies in a longitudinal direction thereof, comprising:

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